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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6350

June 2, 2003

The Honorable Hector V. Barreto
Administrator
U.S. Small Business Administration
409 Third Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

RE: 2003 Women's Business Centers Sustainability Grants

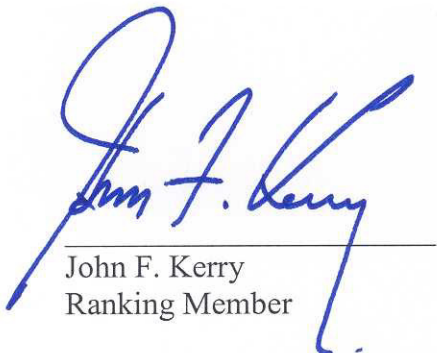
Dear Administrator Barreto:

It has come to our attention that while six Women's Business Centers have applied for initial sustainability grants, there does not appear to be sufficient funding to award sustainability grants to each of them.


Please advise the Committee as to how the Small Business Administration plans to keep the Women's Business Centers infrastructure intact, as was intended in the Women's Business Centers Sustainability Act. Please include legal citations for SBA's authority to take the proposed measures and the timeline for their implementation. We would appreciate a response no later than noon on Wednesday, June 4, 2003, the date of the Committee's hearing on SBA Reauthorization.

Thank you for your prompt reply to this request.

Sincerely,



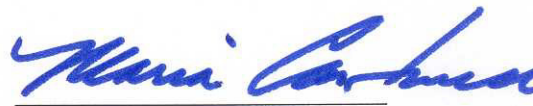
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Tom Harkin
U.S. Senator



John Edwards
U.S. Senator



Maria Cantwell
U.S. Senator